



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Helmut D. LINK *et al*.

Serial No.: 11/635,070

Filing Date: December 7, 2006

For: CERVICAL PROSTHESIS AND

**INSTRUMENT SET** 

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 & 1.98

MS Missing Parts
Director of the US Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicants submit for consideration in the above-identified application the document listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08a/b. A copy of the document is submitted herewith. The Examiner is requested to make this document of record.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted before the mailing of a first Office Action and therefore it is believed that no fees are due with this submission.

Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO/SB/08a/b, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

. . .

The information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist;

(iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal form is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief (such as payment of a fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (p)) is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petition and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing (2464720064200).

Dated: February 28, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

Barry E. Bretschneider

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known			
Application Number	11/635,070		
Filing Date	December 7, 2006		
First Named Inventor	Helmut D. LINK		
Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned		
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned		
Attorney Docket Number	246472006420		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number  Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document  Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	

\*EXAMINER: Initial if information considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>	
	1	Panjabi, Manohar M., et al. (1991). "Cervical Human Vertebrae, Quantitative Three- Dimensional Anatomy of the Middle and Lower Regions" <i>Spine</i> 16(8): 861-869.		

<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Examiner	Date	
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